“If you want to understand the Middle East, just look in your backyard. Amman is a lot like Orange City: conservative and traditional, family-based, close and tight-knit.” – Shadi Awwad
Global Awareness

“I had no idea . . . ” The words of Northwestern student Andrew Bensen jumped out at me. It was not the first time I had heard them on this particular night.

A couple hundred members of the campus community were gathered in Christ Chapel to listen to those who had just returned from Spring Service Projects. One after another, these students, faculty and staff spoke of being amazed at the extent and effectiveness of the Christian service they encountered, and also at the depth and persistence of the challenges the people they were serving faced every day.

We all know something of the problems and potential of our world—more so today than at any time in the past, we are exposed daily to the complex realities of a global society. Still, there is nothing quite like direct personal experience to open the mind and heart to human need and divine possibility.

One of the current initiatives on the Northwestern campus is to strengthen global awareness among our students, staff and faculty. Building on the work and witness of retired professors Lyle VanderWerff and Ray Weiß, among others, and mindful of the need for cross-cultural experience, a task force of faculty, staff and students has developed a three-pronged approach to achieving this goal:

1.) Expand study abroad opportunities for our students. With money from the Lilly grant, faculty members (often assisted by staff) are creating study abroad courses in places from South Africa and Central America to India and Oman. Already many students each year participate in international programs provided by the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities and our sister colleges. These new opportunities will enhance the understanding of our own faculty and staff as we encourage cross-cultural competence in our students.

2.) Expand and strengthen worldwide Christian service opportunities for our students, faculty and staff. A decade ago, about 125 from the Northwestern community were participating in off-campus service projects annually. This year, due mainly to the careful and caring efforts of Barb Dewald, assistant dean for spiritual formation, we had more than 300 spend spring break and/or the summer months assisting Christian ministries all over the world. In the future we plan to have even more students, faculty and staff share in these experiences, and we want to connect this critical experiential learning with appropriate academic preparation and follow-up.

3.) Increase the number and influence of international and ethnic minority students, faculty and staff at Northwestern. This may be our biggest challenge. Yet, already progress is being made. This year we had 32 international students. Next year the projected number is 45. We also are in the process of hiring a new international faculty member. As important as the increased numbers are, just as important is the role these persons play on our campus. In the months after the tragedy of September 11, the Northwestern community rallied around our international students. Given this support, several international students have gone on to become campus leaders. They are the ones now helping us recruit next year’s class.

There may have been a time in the past when it was possible to prepare for adulthood without global awareness. But this is certainly not the case today. At NWC we desire to both understand and serve the world, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Northwestern participates in Iowa Private College Week

Northwestern is among 29 colleges that will be participating in Iowa Private College Week, Aug. 4-8. Tours and information sessions for prospective students and their parents will be available each day at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. All who visit Northwestern that week will have their application fees waived.

To schedule a visit during Iowa Private College Week or anytime (Monday-Thursday 8-4:30 and Friday 8-noon), contact the Admissions Office at 1-800-747-4757 or admissions@nwciowa.edu.

Correction
The Fab Finish insert of the Spring '03 Classic incorrectly omitted Jacob Koczman’s 2001 outdoor track title in the 400 meter run from a list of national championships won by Northwestern athletes. We regret the error.
Projects make good progress

Construction work has continued at full force on campus this summer. The two new student apartment buildings, Thea Korver Visual Arts Center and theatre arts center have differing completion dates, but all three projects have seen much progress.

Crews poured sidewalks and the parking lot for the apartment buildings early in the summer, were wrapping up finish work in the common areas, and expected to be out of the buildings by the end of June. Landscaping will take place in July, and the streets by the facilities will be paved.

As of mid-June, the Korver Visual Arts Center was about three weeks behind schedule, and officials were hoping to at least have the studios for ceramics and sculpture ready for the fall semester. Other classes are expected to be held in the Bushmer Center for three to four weeks before the move is completed. Crews were finishing up the brickwork, installing Sheetrock, pouring concrete floors and the sidewalk, and reshaping the ground around the building.

At the theatre arts center, most of the brickwork and windows were installed at press time. The black box theatre had been painted, the ductwork was 80 percent finished, the elevators were nearly done, and crews had begun painting the ceiling of the proscenium theatre and most of the rest of the building. Some of the lighting equipment was being installed, and workers were starting on the innovative, wireless loop hearing-impaired system, which will enable patrons who have the right kind of hearing aid to hear shows without the aid of a headphone set. The facility’s projected completion date is mid-October. A gradual transition is planned, with faculty moving into offices and holding classes in the new building as soon as possible in the fall semester. The first production in the new facility will be staged in the spring semester.

Fund raising continues on the $8.3 million theatre arts center, with $7.5 million having been committed so far.
Musician chosen for International Youth Wind Orchestra

Angie Husman ’03 was selected to perform in the 2003 World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) International Youth Wind Orchestra. The ensemble played at the WASBE’s international conference in Jonkoping, Sweden, June 29-July 5.

Husman, a clarinetist from Merrill, was chosen based on a taped audition. She was joined in the orchestra by about 50 other musicians, ages 18-25, from around the world.

A music education major who will teach 5-12 instrumental music in Woodbine, Iowa, next fall, Husman says she feels that her international band experience will help her as an educator. “I hope the experience will give me a larger scope of the music world and how different people approach it. A lot of the members are music performance majors. By doing this, I can especially encourage my students who are interested in performance to pursue their goals and build their enthusiasm about music.”

Husman is the third NWC musician to be chosen for the IYWO. Derek Beekhuizen ’02 was selected for the 1999 ensemble, which performed in San Luis Obispo, Calif. In 2001, he was part of the group that played in Lucerne, Sweden, along with Andrea Weinert ’02.

During her time at Northwestern, Husman performed in the Symphonic Band and Woodwind Quintet and was selected to participate in the Iowa Intercollegiate All-Star Band. She was in the A cappella Choir last year and a member of the dance team for two years.

Husman said she grew in her faith and had a great experience in Northwestern’s music department. “They did a good job of getting me ready to teach music. I feel very prepared,” she said. “I especially enjoyed traveling with the band and choir on spring tours to Venezuela, Arizona, Florida, Minnesota and Omaha.”

Board approves restructuring

The Northwestern College Board of Trustees approved a proposal to restructure itself at its spring meeting on campus in April. The plan, which has been in the works for a year, calls for reducing the number of voting trustees from 52 to 32.

“There is excitement about this change,” said President Bruce Murphy. “Everyone’s looking forward to the new structure as a configuration that will be more workable and get trustees involved more.”

Murphy said an important component of the change was to maintain the representation of Reformed Church in America (RCA) appointments at 50 percent. “We want very much to maintain a strong connection to the RCA,” he said.

No retiring board members have been replaced in the last year and a half, so the organization’s downsizing has been done by attrition.

The fall 2003 board meeting in October will be focused on board responsibilities, which include maintaining Northwestern’s mission and identity, approving policy, and envisioning the future.

The board elected new officers: Drew Vogel ’72, Orange City, as chairman; the Rev. Steve Vander Molen, Orange City, as vice chairman; and Deb Locker ’84 of Orange City as secretary.

Recognition was given to seven retiring board members: the Rev. Carl Boersma ’75 of Sioux Center, who served 12 years; Dale Den Herder ’63 of Sioux Center, a total of 23 years, including seven as board chairman; Jan Schuiteman of Orange City, eight years, the last four as secretary; the Rev. Dave Schiitt ’70 of Carmichael, Calif., eight years; Dave Van Engelenhoven ’65 of Orange City, a total of 16 years, including the last five as chairman; the Rev. Harlan VanOort ’82 of Orange City, who is leaving the board after nine years to serve as Northwestern’s new chaplain; and Dr. Fred Wezeman of Palos Heights, Ill., eight years.
North Hall to be renamed in honor of Stegenga

North Hall, a 200-bed residence hall for women that was completed in 1996, will be renamed Stegenga Hall in honor of former NWC president Preston Stegenga. That decision was made by the Board of Trustees at its April meeting.

A special event commemorating the renaming will be scheduled for the fall.

“Dr. Stegenga’s role was critical in the early history of Northwestern as a four-year institution,” said President Bruce Murphy. “He brought Northwestern through the very significant transition from a junior college to a four-year institution and then through preliminary accreditation.”

Stegenga became president of Northwestern Classical Academy and Junior College in 1955, when he was only 31. He had been an associate professor of history and political science at Kentucky’s Berea College for three years.

During Stegenga’s time at Northwestern, enrollment doubled as the institution became a four-year college. In addition, the Multi-Purpose Auditorium, Ramaker Library, Colenbrander Hall and Hospers Hall were built.

Stegenga, now 79, said he and his wife, Marcia, are very honored by the board’s decision. “We are thrilled. It brings back many fond memories for us. We were at Northwestern during a very unique period of time in its history, and the growth the college has experienced is a dream come true.”

Stegenga left NWC in 1966 to serve as adviser to the president of the University of Liberia in West Africa. In 1968, he joined the staff of California State University, Sacramento, where he served in such roles as director of the International Center, vice president for academic affairs and coordinator of the international student program. He retired in 1988 but served as special assistant to the president until 1991.

Still active as an international education consultant, Stegenga was inducted into the Multi-Cultural Educators’ Hall of Fame in 1996. The former president of Sacramento’s World Affairs Council and United Nations Association has received numerous citations and awards from the California State Legislature, Germany and Venezuela, to name only a few. He was awarded an honorary doctorate by NWC in 1989, and he served on the Board of Trustees from 1991-95.

SIFE advances to nationals for third year

Northwestern’s Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team was named regional champion for the third year in a row at the SIFE Regional Competition and Career Opportunity Fair in Minneapolis in April. The NWC team advanced to the SIFE national contest in Kansas City, Mo., in mid-May.

The team’s presentation focused on four major projects. They designed and administered a retail survey for the Orange City Chamber of Commerce; provided consultation services in profit and expense control, organizational efficiency, human resource management, marketing and training for a non-profit training facility for developmentally-challenged adults; collaborated with Wells Blue Bunny to satisfy the sweet tooth of Orange City residents; and worked on an aqua-science project. The team is combining aquaculture and hydroponics to develop a kit designed to be used for family subsistence in Third World countries.

“SIFE is in its third year at Northwestern, and I’m continually impressed and motivated by the level of student commitment to the type of project that fits perfectly with the mission of the college,” said SIFE’s adviser, Professor Michael Avery. “The team designs projects that will interface with the community and promote Christian ethical values.”

Students in Free Enterprise encourages students to take what they are learning in the classroom and apply it to real-life situations, and to use their knowledge to better their communities through educational outreach projects. Teams are judged on the effectiveness of their projects, with criteria including creativity and innovation, results of education programs, success in utilizing resources and documentation of activities.
Faculty pursue summer scholarship

Eleven faculty members have received institutional funding to conduct summer research and scholarship.

Karen Acker, art, is constructing three porcelain sculptural forms for entrance in juried national and international exhibitions.

Biology professor Dr. Laura Furlong is continuing her comparative research between the island and mainland biogeography and ecology of Santa Cruz Island, Calif., streams.

Dr. Todd Tracy, biology, is analyzing song dialects among house finches in northwest Iowa.

Dr. Sara Tolsma, biology, is writing two lessons for adult Christian education classes focusing on genetic technologies like stem cell research and genetic testing and screening.

Dr. Bob Hubbard, theatre, is writing an autobiographical one-person drama about a near-fatal rock climbing incident in the Black Hills.

English professor Dr. Michael Kensak is continuing work on his book project, *Poets and Pilgrims: The Arrival Topos in the Works of Chaucer, Dante and Alain de Lille*.

Dr. Joonna Trapp, English, is conducting research in Virginia that she hopes will either confirm or deny the claim that Southern women did not have a public voice and did not speak in public venues before the Civil War.

Historian Dr. Michael Kugler is spending the summer reading and researching critics of the “Enlightenment Project.”

Vonda Post and Dr. Clyde Vollmers, business, are collaborating with students to write three case studies—accounting, business strategy and marketing—that detail the rise and fall of a hockey stick company.


Dr. Marc Wooldridge, music, is learning, recording and editing recordings of two new percussion solo and electro-acoustic accompaniment works.

Students work at Santa Fe Opera

Four Northwestern students were selected to work as apprentices on production crews for the world-renowned Santa Fe Opera in New Mexico this summer.

Lee Fiskness ’03, a theatre major from Moorhead, Minn., is back at Santa Fe for the second time as an assistant lighting supervisor and electrician. He is joined by senior Jill Vaughn, a theatre major from Twin Falls, Idaho, and senior Sara Hamon, an elementary education major from Sioux Falls, who are working on the stage crew. Corinne Mings, a junior English major from Ely, Nev., is working on the properties crew.

Students study abroad

Three groups of NWC students traveled, studied and served this summer as part of the study abroad program.

Jolynn Tonsfeldt, education, and Dr. Ed Starkenburg, education, led a group of 10 students in the study of Jamaican culture in June. The NWC contingent spent 10 days in Ocho Rios, teaching in schools and churches. Another 10 days were spent in Montego Bay, where they worked in a children’s home.

Six students were in South Africa to study racial reconciliation May 14-June 6. The group was led by Nontando Hadebe, a visiting instructor in religion who is a Zimbabwe native and a longtime resident of South Africa, and Dr. Carl Vandermuelen, English and communication studies. The students learned about South Africa’s shift away from apartheid from those who lived through it, including a number of representatives from Christian service organizations. They also brought clothes and educational supplies to an AIDS clinic and schools.

Twenty-three students took Sport in Society in the Czech Republic May 14-25 under the leadership of kinesiology faculty Dr. Paul Bartlett, Josh Bolluyt and Dr. Orv Otten, head football coach. The group’s study of the role of sports in the Czech Republic included interviews with people involved in the Olympic movement during the Cold War and the current Czech Republic Olympic Committee. Another component of this trip was sports evangelism, with 36 members of the football team seeking evangelistic opportunities while playing a game in that country and one in Austria, practicing with football clubs, conducting clinics, and visiting hospitals and an orphanage.
Academic program adopts divisional structure

Northwestern has developed a divisional structure for its academic program in an effort to provide more leadership and vision, promote efficient communication, increase participatory decision-making, encourage cross-departmental planning and promote faculty development.

Five divisions have been formed: education; arts, representing the departments of art, communication studies, music and theatre; humanities, including the departments of English, foreign language, history, philosophy and religion; natural science, representing the departments of biology, chemistry, computer science, kinesiology, mathematics and physics; and social science, including the departments of business, political science, psychology, social work and sociology.

Dr. Karen Cianci, vice president for academic affairs, said the new divisional chairpersons will serve as an advisory council for her. “Divisional chairs will participate with my office in a bigger decision-making role, talking about where we need to be going. This provides me a regular body for working through decisions and effectively managing all the administrative duties. Doing it with five faculty who still have teaching responsibilities enhances faculty participation, which is essential,” added Cianci.

The divisional chairpersons, current NWC faculty who will have their teaching load reduced to allow for their new administrative duties, will advise Cianci in prioritization and coordination decisions relative to budgetary and curricular needs; serve on search committees for new faculty members; assisting in assessing cross-departmental and institutional needs; and supervise and train new discipline chairpersons. Other responsibilities include facilitating the transition for new faculty, encouraging professors to be involved in faculty development opportunities and assisting in the evaluation of faculty.

Divisional chairpersons, appointed to a three-year renewable term, were selected by Cianci after nominations and votes of confidence were taken within each division. Criteria for the chairpersons included faculty who have tenure and possess gifts of leadership and administration.

The chair of the education division is Dr. Barb Top, associate professor of education. She also will serve as the institution’s assessment coordinator. She has taught at NWC since 1993.

Dr. Tim McGarvey, associate professor of music, is the chair of the arts division. He was appointed to the faculty in 1989.

Dr. Randy Jensen, chair of the humanities division, is an associate professor of philosophy. Jensen joined the philosophy faculty in 1999.

The chair of the natural science division is Mark Vellinga, associate professor of computer science. He has taught at NWC since 1990.

Dr. Eric Elder, professor of business and economics, is the chair of the social science division. He has been a member of the faculty since 1985.

Dr. Doug Carlson, professor of history, will continue in his half-time role as associate academic dean. His administrative roles include overseeing the freshman seminar, multicultural programs, study abroad and student exception issues. Carlson joined the faculty in 1990.
Students win awards at Model Arab League

Several NWC students received recognition at the conclusion of the Great Plains Model League of Arab States on Northwestern's campus in April.

Shadi Awwad, a senior chemistry major from Almond, Wis., tied for outstanding committee chairperson for his work in leading the joint defense committee. Awwad, who represented Palestine at the event, also was elected to serve as secretary general for next year's Model Arab League.

Jake Johnson, a junior political science major from Franklin, Neb., was named an outstanding delegate. He represented the country of Oman on the joint defense committee. Johnson also was elected to serve as assistant secretary general next year.

Northwestern’s Oman delegation was accorded honorable mention recognition. Members included Johnson; Penny De Haan '03, a history major from Orange City; Amanda Gordon, a sophomore psychology major from Jenison, Mich.; Ben Hummel, a senior history major from Naperville, Ill.; Daniel Ling, a junior computer science major from Fayette, Iowa; and Brandon Rounds, a senior political science major from Troy. De Haan and Gordon both received honorable mention outstanding delegate recognition, as did Stephanie Unick '03, a history major from Pleasanton, Neb., who represented Palestine.

More than 50 students from six colleges played the role of Arab diplomats during the event at Northwestern, one of 11 college Model Arab Leagues held around the nation.

Thompson receives first staff award

Staff award winner Dale Thompson was cited by nominators for his constant willingness to help with responsibilities that aren’t part of his work expectations, such as operating machines to prepare the new track surface, setting up the discus and hammer throw cages, and picking up branches after a windstorm.

Dale Thompson, director of the Rowenhorst Student Center and intramural program, head cross country coach and assistant track coach, was named the 2003 recipient of Northwestern's new Staff Recognition for Inspirational Service Award in April.

Thompson received a $500 honorarium funded by the Alumni Association, a plaque, and a luncheon for him and his coworkers. The honor is given to recognize staff who consistently provide outstanding contributions by going beyond what is expected, personify a strong Christian commitment and witness, and distinguish themselves as an inspiration to the campus community.

Employees nominated candidates, and a six-member selection committee—which included four staff members, one student and a faculty member—selected Thompson.

An NWC employee since 1981, Thompson was cited by nominators for his tireless work ethic, positive attitude and insight. "Dale has a servant’s heart," wrote Julie Andersen from the maintenance department. "Through his servanthood, he has been a wonderful witness not only to the people he works with but his student-athletes and outsiders who come to visit campus." Added Gary Jeltema, also from the maintenance department, "It is a joy to work with Dale on any project. He has a lot of wisdom and insight."

Dean for Student Affairs Paul Blezien said Thompson is a model of excellence and integrity. "Dale has a higher capacity for outstanding performance than anyone I know," wrote Blezien, citing Thompson’s unusual combination of creativity with skills in organization and interpersonal relationships. "His quiet, encouraging way with people along with a mind that handles the complexity of 'out-of-the-box' thinking very well make him an unbelievable asset in problem solving. He has the ability to individually produce 'off-the-chart' results while simultaneously getting those around him to be better as well."
With his bleach-blonde hair and accent-free English, Northwestern chemistry and math senior Shadi Awwad isn’t recognized by most as an international student. And he’s not, really. The son of an American schoolteacher and an Arab physician, Shadi has had dual citizenship his whole life. He came to Northwestern from a high school in Wisconsin, where he’d spent two years living with his grandparents. Before that, he’d lived most of his life in Amman, Jordan.

Shadi’s parents met on a plane ride from Istanbul to Beruit, separating with an exchange of addresses and the intent to be pen pals. Four days later, both boarded another plane and found they were seated next to one another again; three years later, they were married.

Shadi said he learned from his mother, who is a very tolerant and open person. “When she married my father and moved to Jordan, she wanted to be a part of the culture rather than just be herself in a different culture. That’s why people love her so much.”

Politics. Shadi’s tolerant and accepting personality is well-suited to Jordan, one of few Middle Eastern countries that has embraced refugees, mostly from Palestine. Palestinian refugees comprise 30 to 40 percent of the Jordanian population; many came during the Gulf War.

The war with Iraq ended just before classes did for the semester. Watching TV in his Heemstra Hall room, Shadi viewed American coverage of the war through his Arabic perspective. “I was pro-war—I believe the American military did their best, taking care of their own men and watching out for civilians,” he said. “What bothered me was not the war, but President Bush’s rhetoric about why he commanded such a war.”

Shadi credited Bush for advocating stability in the region—and peace. But, he said, most Arabs believe the instability between Palestine and Israel is more dangerous. Yet America continues its one-sided aid.

“Americans hear about every suicide bombing but have no idea that many more Palestinians than Israelis died last year. Like many Arabs, I won’t really believe Bush’s statements about wanting peace until he starts attacking the instability between Palestine and Israel as vigorously as he attacked Iraq,” said Shadi, adding that America could find a better balance between aiding their allies and aiding humanity.

Community. Shadi has lived in the U.S. since 1998. He loves America, but he misses his family and Arab relatives. “My family is very close in Jordan. My aunt is two blocks away, another aunt a half-mile, my grandfather is a 15-minute drive away.”

The homes and lives of Jordanian people
are more open, Shadi says. Jordanian time is less ruled by schedules and appointments than American time.

“In Jordan, a lot of people want to get to know other people,” explained Shadi. “Anytime anyone new arrives,” he said, “we want to know them. Where are they from? What's their story?”

Americans aren't this curious, Shadi thinks. “Americans are so busy and working so hard just to better their own lives. It's a natural impulse, but it leaves little time to get to know the rest of the world.”

Shadi acknowledges his dual citizenship and experience enable him to understand and appreciate both cultures. “Americans look at the Middle East and see a very male-dominated culture, and maybe compared to America, it is. But families in my community are like families here. Decisions are made with consult and compromise.

“Both cultures are essential to my life,” said Shadi. “Maybe that's why I don't see a lot of differences. To me they both are home.”

Religion. Now Northwestern College is home. A divine flip of a coin led him here, to a Christian college where he has made many friends and is learning lots about Christian faith and community.

Shadi's mother is Christian. But he and his brother, Tarik, a freshman at Drake University in Des Moines, were raised Muslim because Islamic tradition dictates that children will be raised in the father's religious tradition. Shadi grew up attending Friday prayers with his father and brother, and his whole family, even his mother, fasted during Ramadan and observed the Islamic religious holidays.

They also sang in the Christmas choir, exchanged gifts and read the Christmas story and celebrated Easter.

“Both my parents are strong in their own faiths,” said Shadi. “It's been amazing to see how they have dealt with their religious differences. The outward expression of the inward faith—those actions are much the same. So they allowed the commonalities between the two faiths to grow and didn't attack the differences.

“The inclination of many American Christians toward people from other cultures is evangelization. Which I have no problem with, but they often don't look at people's lives,” said Shadi. “They only think, 'How can I convert this person?' It becomes a huge problem when you try to go to another country or culture and change the basic foundation of the way their life is, turn it upside-down, turn people against their families.”

He added, “Some Christians don't want to know people, they just want to change them.” But Shadi is quick to acknowledge that not all the Christians he's met take that approach, including his Christian friends at Northwestern and in the youth group he used to attend in Wisconsin.

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Hannah, Nicky, Sneha and Anila

Anila (“a-knee-la”) Karunakar, Hannah and Nicky Dutt, and Sneha (“sneigh-ha”) Babu are Indian ex-patriates who live in the Middle East. It’s confusing for their American friends, the women admit. “When I tell people I’m from Qatar—and then explain where that is,” said Sneha, a sophomore accounting major, “they say, ‘I thought you said you were Indian.’”

Hired last year in Northwestern’s multicultural affairs office, Anila ‘02 is from Bahrain, 33 islands that make up the smallest gulf country. She makes people guess. “I ask, ‘Where do you think I’m from?’ They guess Latin America. ‘Are you Hispanic? African? I had someone say, ‘Are you from Des Moines?’” she says with a laugh.

Hannah and Nicky went home this summer to Oman, but they’ve also lived in the United Arab Emirates. Their father is a pastor for the Protestant church in Oman; their mother is a doctor. The sisters started out biology majors, like their mom, but each is pursuing an artistic passion now: writing for Hannah, a senior who wants to be a traveling journalist, and theatre for Nicky—“for the moment, anyway,” says the sophomore.

Anila’s mother is in medicine, too. Her family moved to the Middle East in the 1970s, when the Bahraini government asked India to send doctors. “There’s a whopping number of Indians in the Middle East,” Anila explained—and many other nationalities as well.

Sneha and her mother and sister joined their father in Qatar in 1990, as the Gulf War was being waged. “Many Indian ex-pats were leaving then,” she remembered. But after five years of living alone in India with two small children, Sneha’s mother was determined the family would stick together.

“I miss the sea,” Anila said of Bahrain. “The Arabian Sea is just beautiful, and the shores are so clean.” Hannah and Nicky also miss the sea, which surrounds their home, Muscat, on three sides and allows for lots of scuba diving, snorkeling and dolphin watching.

Oman is a geologist’s paradise, too, claims Nicky. “We have really rocky mountains. They absorb heat all day and radiate it into the valleys at night, so it’s just as hot at night as during the day.”

The gulf countries have heat in common. “Very, very hot,” the women chimed, when asked about the climate of their home countries. “Temperatures reach 120 degrees with 80 percent humidity,” explained Anila. “Air conditioning is not a luxury; it’s a necessity.”

Sneha’s hometown, Doha, is in the middle of the Qatar desert. “It rains only once or twice a year. There’s very little vegetation. It rained so often in Orange City this spring. I’d stand outside in it, awestruck. It’s
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“The older people in my grandparents’ church saw me as a project,” he says with a laugh. “Robert and Caroline’s little Muslim grandson.”

But Kevin, Shadi’s youth pastor, was different. “Kevin never bothered me about that stuff,” he said. “We spent weekends together and went to Bucks and Brewers games. When the youth group had weekend retreats, I felt like I had to go because I wanted to be with Kevin. He just wanted to be my friend.

“And that made me curious about him,” said Shadi. “I wanted to know, ‘What’s his story?’”

**Shahyan continued from page 11**

He chose Northwestern on the recommendation of U.S. News and World Report magazine’s rating of NWC as a “Best Value.” He also appreciated the promise of individual attention that started with Dean of Admissions Ron De Jong, who walked him, step by step, through the admissions process.

“Of course, I knew right away it was a Christian college,” said Shahyan, who read about Northwestern’s faith and learning and Christ-centered approach to academics on the college’s website. “My brother’s professor at Boston University, who had studied at a Christian college, was very encouraging. He said it’d [NWC] be a really positive environment—a very welcoming and nurturing community.”

What’s it like, being Muslim on a Christian campus?

He can’t eat pork, which he says is difficult when attending a college in Iowa. And he can’t attend the nearest mosque, in Sioux City, because services are on Fridays, when he has class. Sometimes he visits American Reformed Church in Orange City with Doug and Lisa (Boonstra ’83) Burg, his American host parents. “I enjoy the songs,” he said. “In the Muslim faith, we don’t have worship songs.”

While on campus, he observed the 30 days of fasting during Ramadan, and he said, “My friends and the guys in Heemstra were really curious—and supportive. That was awesome.”

So far, Shahyan says Christianity and Islam have many similar ideas. But he’ll have a chance to compare the two more closely next semester when he takes History of Islam and one of two required religion courses: Introduction to Biblical Studies or Introduction to Christian Theology.

“There are things Dr. [Steven] Isaac (history) knows about Islam that I didn’t even know,” said Shahyan. “And I’m definitely looking forward to my theology classes—it should be a great learning experience.”
A Perfect Score

by Carrie Odell ’01

In any arena, a perfect performance is a rarity. But for recent graduate Jill Peterson, finishing her college career with a perfect score is a reality. A biology-health professions major from Spirit Lake, Iowa, Jill graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors—and a 4.0 grade point average.

Although she also received straight As in high school, Jill said achieving a 4.0 in college was never a goal. “I have always had the idea that I should just do my best. I can’t do anything more,” she explains. “That’s how I feel about life, too: If you do your best, then that’s all you can do.”

On average, Jill studied about 35 hours a week to maintain the grades she knew she needed to get into medical school. Her focus and dedication paid off, as she will begin classes at the University of Iowa Medical School in the fall.

Jill, whose father is a family practice doctor, became interested in pursuing medicine at a young age, but her interest was solidified in a high school anatomy and physiology class. “Through that class I came to appreciate the many intricacies of God’s amazing design of the human body, and I developed a strong desire to learn more about the many dimensions of human life,” she said.

When Jill visited Northwestern as a high school student, she was impressed with the biology curriculum, facilities and faculty. And on graduating from Northwestern, Jill still is pleased with her decision. “The biology faculty did an excellent job of teaching the material as well as incorporating it with my faith. I feel very well prepared for medical school. Overall, I feel very fortunate to have attended a college as unique as NWC—where I was continuously challenged academically, personally and spiritually.”

Jill also appreciates the friendly atmosphere of Northwestern. One of her favorite NWC memories occurred the night before she and several other students took the Medical College Admission Test. Several biology students and professors organized a dinner at President Murphy’s house for all of the students who would be taking the exam. “You’re not going to get that at a bigger school,” Jill said.

In addition to her studies, Jill was involved in a variety of campus activities: intramural volleyball and flag football, science tutoring, Ambassadors, and working as a student assistant to biology professor Dr. Byron Noordewier. Jill also met her future husband, Joe Johnson ’03, at Northwestern.

While education is important to her, Jill says that the relationships she made are what she values most about her time at Northwestern. “One of the most important things I learned while at NWC is to live my life in such a way that if someone knows me but doesn’t know Christ, they will come to know Christ because they know me—through my actions, words, etc. From being at Northwestern, I realized how important people are. It wasn’t just about studying.”
World Minded

by Duane Beeson

When Koene was in the 12th grade, he took a year off of school to live with his sister, then a missionary in Honduras. He met his future wife, Rosa, that year (1981), and he’s been back to Honduras every year since. Before joining Northwestern’s Spanish faculty in January of 2000, he had spent two years in Choluteca, Honduras, managing and developing a dairy ranch, coordinating relief efforts after Hurricane Mitch, and serving as on-site director and lecturer for college study-abroad groups. In his first two years at NWC, he was one of the advisers on Spring Service Projects to Choluteca.

Koene’s love for Honduras, the Spanish language, Hispanic culture, missions and students from around the world is obvious to those who know him. Says one student, “He takes the content he is teaching very seriously and desires for students to learn. I think this desire goes far beyond his students just learning Spanish to the reason for learning another language, understanding the many cultures in Spanish-speaking countries, understanding world issues, why God chose to create a world with different languages and cultures, and how God fits into every aspect of life. He desires us to think critically about our world, our faith and what God has to do with it.”

Koene was named this year’s recipient of the Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award, co-sponsored by the Alumni Association and the Student Government Association (SGA), at Honors Convocation in April. He received a $1,500 check and a plaque.

Students nominated 24 professors for the honor. A selection committee—composed of two SGA members, three members of the Sigma Tau senior honor society and the past two award winners— pared the nominees to three finalists. Factors considered included the number of nominations in relation to candidates’ teaching loads, quality of nominations, professional development, research and publications, institutional service and student course evaluations.

The other finalists were Dr. James Mead, religion, and Dr. Jeff VanDerWerff, political science.

Students who nominated Koene for the award said he is a challenging professor, but also humorous and patient. “Koene is one of those rare teachers who can laugh in a classroom, be well-liked by students and still maintain control of the room,” wrote one. “He is very organized and does not waste time. But he always welcomes and answers our questions because he wants us to learn. Koene is a hard worker who is sensitive to students’ needs.”

The chairman of Northwestern’s modern foreign language department, Koene was instrumental in the formation of a new one-year English as a Second Language certificate program for nonnative speakers who want to achieve the English skills necessary for success as degree-seeking students at NWC or other U.S. colleges, or in business. Koene helps organize monthly Spanish chapels and serves as adviser for the Spanish Club and the Spanish theme house. He directed the Summer Institute for International Students last year.

Piet Koene, this year’s recipient of the Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award, discusses a Spanish assignment with Lindsey Fredriks.

“World Minded” continued on page 17
With television news broadcasting through its halls each day, the DEMCO Business/Economics Center at Northwestern is filled with the sounds of current events. Nearby, Dave Mulder’s office is filled with the sounds of—well, geese honking. And sometimes an owl hooting.

“When people tell you you’re for the birds, you might as well prove it,” he jokes, pointing to his bird clock that chirps on the hour, hanging near the many plaques honoring his teaching and coaching at NWC.

With great relief that many of his quips eluded the Campus Quotes section of the college’s newspaper, Mulder retired this spring after 21 years of teaching business and economics. Before coming to

“Education is not about facts... because facts can easily be looked up. I really think education is teaching people how to learn.”

by Amy Scheer
Northwestern in 1982, Mulder spent 21 years teaching in the Sioux Center school district, an experience he commends as valuable training. “In all honesty, I think it’s good for any college teacher to have taught a little bit in high school and find out what it’s like in terms of motivation,” he says. “In high school, you have to learn how to teach, get their attention and keep it, and get your material across. I think that was really an advantage for me.”

Students think so, too; their votes made Mulder a two-time recipient of the Northwestern Teaching Excellence Award (in 1986 and 1997). Mulder loves teaching, working hard to connect lessons with real life and current events. He favors group projects which simulate the team environment that students will enter in the working world.

Education is not about facts, Mulder says (while checking his almanac for one), because facts can easily be looked up. “I really think education is teaching people how to learn.”

Mulder’s desk, where the almanac sits, is barely visible through the collage of old baseball cards (“even Satchel Paige”) covering it. A lover of sports, Mulder was golf coach at NWC for 15 years, assistant baseball coach for one, and head baseball coach back in 1965 (before he started teaching). He can regularly be found announcing and keeping score at basketball games or working in the press box at football games.

Many big-name athletes—like former University of Nebraska head football coach Tom Osborne, NFL Hall of Famer Lem Barney and former Milwaukee Brewers pitcher Bill Wegman—have come to campus at Mulder’s request to speak to students. He invited politicians, as well; Senator Phil Gramm taught one of Mulder’s economics classes, with Charlton Heston in tow (during Gramm’s run for the 1996 Republican presidential nomination).

Mulder spoke in Northwestern’s chapel this spring, sharing with students 12 life principles meaningful to him and his work. Ranging from E Pluribus Unum to “People are more important than things,” the principles highlight Mulder’s deep devotion to others, namely his students.

Number nine, “It’s OK to cry,” is inspired by Psalm 56. Admittedly an emotional person, Mulder can’t get through an episode of “Little House on the Prairie” without bawling. He was ill-equipped while watching NWC theatre professor Jeff Barker’s new play, “September Bears,” about events related to the September 11 attacks. (“I didn’t have a handkerchief; my sleeve was a mess.”)

Any crying in the classroom? He pauses, reaching for a tissue, and his voice breaks: “When a kid loses his dad—I had two kids this year—how do you not cry?”

Retirement for Mulder means dropping his number of advisees from 80 to 60; he’ll continue to meet with students, though he won’t be teaching (“Which I’ll miss”). And though he won’t be coaching, he’ll still be announcing at basketball games. “I’m a little nervous about it [retirement] because I’m used to being busy; used to being in a routine. I love golf, but I can’t play golf all the time. I gotta have something else to do.”

World Minded continued from page 15

A leader in Amistad Cristiana, a Spanish church in Sioux Center, Koene encourages his students to minister to northwest Iowa’s growing Hispanic community. “You can’t come away from his classes without having to struggle with issues of social justice and our responsibility as Christians,” wrote a student. “He doesn’t just talk about the importance of knowing a language in order to love our neighbor better, he creates opportunities for us to actually do it. The fact that he sends all of his students out to be involved with Hispanics is a huge ministry—to us students and to the people we are fortunate to interact with.”
There are two myths about bankers that Dave Hughes ’86 wants to debunk. First, they don’t golf all the time. Some of the time, perhaps, enough to get him three “lucky” holes-in-one, but not every free minute.

Second, bankers don’t work from nine to three. Sure, the doors close then, but bankers are still there until 5 p.m. Really. Try calling sometime.

Dave Hughes, newly-elected president of the National Alumni Board, is a vice president at Iowa State Bank in Orange City. He’s been in banking since a year after graduating from NWC with a business/economics major and a concentration in financial management. “It’s much more people-oriented than I (as a college student) thought,” he says, appreciating the combination of people and detail skills needed in banking. As vice president, one of his chief duties is supervising three people in the agriculture department, as agriculture is central to the economy of northwest Iowa and is the bank’s primary portfolio.

A native of Meriden, Iowa, Hughes observes many NWC students rotate through Iowa State Bank’s intern program, consistently noting strong integrity and spiritual maturity. He senses what he calls the college’s “directed emphasis on growing your faith,” and this impression led him to want to reconnect with his alma mater, joining the alumni board in 2002. “When you can see the kids daily and the impact that the college is having on young people, that really gives you a passion to want to be a part of that,” he says.

In his new role as National Alumni Board president, Hughes aims to help alumni see what he’s seen in Northwestern students, in the hopes of getting them to reconnect with the college as he did. He’d like to see alumni networked with students through such programs as www.nwcareerconnections.com, so that students can e-mail alumni directly for career consultation and encouragement. Everyone benefits from these connections, says Hughes.

Local alums can participate in Dinners for 8, one of many creative programs developed by Alumni Director Karen Woudstra, matching students with alumni for a meal in their homes. Or sometimes, for more: Students at the Hughes’ house hung out in the hot tub and “didn’t want to leave,” says Hughes, who found the meal time and conversation very rewarding.

Hughes also looks for ways to connect alumni with each other. For the past five years, he has gone on annual golfing trips to Alabama with several other NWC families. His love for the Kansas City Chiefs has linked him with other alumni and their families as well, and together they make pilgrimages to spring training camp each year.

As a member of Orange City’s Economic Development Board and NWC’s Board of Trustees,
For 75 years, the Women’s Auxiliary has offered up time, resources and prayers to support Northwestern. During that time the school has expanded and changed, but the Auxiliary’s support hasn’t wavered. They have donated over $500,000 to the college for various needs and projects.

by Emily Hennager ’06

75 Years of Service

Donations from the Women’s Auxiliary have funded the college’s signs and aided the construction and renovation of nearly all campus buildings, including Zwemer Hall.

“Basically, through the past 75 years, the Auxiliary has donated something to most of the buildings on campus,” said Vandersall.

In 1975, the Auxiliary set up the Hannah Heemstra Scholarship in honor of the founder and first president of the Auxiliary. The scholarship is awarded every year to a maximum of four students who have financial need and demonstrate Christian character. Shirley Muilenburg, who has been involved with the Auxiliary for over 30 years, recalls setting up the scholarship and views it as one of the organization’s most significant accomplishments.

“We knew when we set it up that it was going to help students for a long time,” she said.

In order to support Northwestern, the Auxiliary has come up with creative fund-raising ideas through the years. They hosted teas, sold cookbooks and magazines, had a garage sale, and collected spare change in hopes of receiving a mile of pennies.

Several of the Auxiliary’s fund-raisers have continued through the years. The annual Hostess Supper, which started in 1973, is a night of fellowship and entertainment for NWC supporters. Around 450 people attended this year’s event in April, raising nearly $10,000. The continued success of the event is no surprise to Vandersall.

“They just enjoy Northwestern,” she said of Hostess.

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Spring sports

Track
• Six Raiders were named All-Americans at the national outdoor meet in Olathe, Kan. Wade De Vries was the runner-up in the triple jump, setting a school record with an effort of 49'1.75". Brian Hartzler was second in the 400 with a 47.38. The women's 4x800 relay team—Ashley Ruppert, Stacy Wittler, Beth Harding and Mikyla Hardersen—placed fifth with a 9:21.00.
• At the Sioux City Relays, De Vries won the triple jump, Hartzler was the champ in the 400 and the women's 4x800 also won. Additionally, the men's 4x100—Hartzler, De Vries, Karlton Hector and Tim Vander Ploeg—took first place.
• The women finished fifth and the men sixth at the GPAC outdoor meet in Orange City. De Vries won the long jump, Hartzler took the 400 and the women's 4x800 was victorious.

Softball
• Compiled a 23-20 record and placed third in the GPAC with a 15-7 mark.
• Jessica Ortman earned conference player of the week honors.
• Ortman and Meagan Wells were named all-region. They were joined on the all-GPAC first team by Cristin Kadner.

Baseball
• Finished 11-31 overall, 10th in the GPAC with an 8-17 record.
• Second baseman Ethan Miller earned second team all-conference honors.

Men's Golf
• Placed sixth at the regional meet.
• Finished fifth at the GPAC meet.
• Paul Clemens placed seventh at the conference meet, earning all-GPAC honors.
• Won the NWC Invitational with Clemens as medalist and Ryan Anema runner-up.

Women's Golf
• Placed fifth at regionals.
• Won the Hastings Invitational with four golfers in the top 10.

Men's Tennis
• Finished with a 5-12 record, fifth in the GPAC with a 5-6 mark.
• Eric Copeland and Doug Van Zanten earned second team all-conference honors.

Women's Tennis
• Finished 1-11 overall, seventh in the league with a 1-9 mark.

Live stats online
Red Raider fans can now watch the stats and play-by-play of home basketball and football games live on the Internet via the following link: www.nwciowa.edu/newsports/sportspress/live.asp.

Career website offers services for alumni
Northwestern's Career Development Center encourages you to check out the new career management website, wwww.nwcareerconnections.com. Whether you are searching for employment, seeking an employee or desiring to be an alumni contact/mentor for current NWC students, the site is worth investigating.

Wade De Vries won the long jump with an effort of 24'04.25" when NWC played host to the GPAC meet in May.
Woudstra earns Liston Award

For the second year in a row, a Woudstra from Northwestern has been named as a national winner of the NAIA’s Emil S. Liston Award. Jaime Woudstra of Orange City followed in her brother Brandon’s footsteps when she was named the female winner of the prestigious award for 2002-03.

Named for one of the NAIA’s founders, the Liston Award is presented annually to a junior basketball player based on scholarship, character and playing ability. This year marks the first time that both a male and female honoree have been named.

Holding a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale, the honorees were chosen by the NAIA Council of Faculty Athletics Representatives from a field that included nominees from 307 institutions.

A two-time first-team All-American, Jaime Woudstra holds the school’s career record in blocks with 148. Averaging 18.3 points and 8.2 rebounds last season, she is the fourth-leading scorer in school history with 1,588 points, seventh in rebounds with 733 and eighth in assists with 250.

Off the court, Woudstra has assumed leadership roles in Bible studies, traveled to Spain with Athletes in Action to work at youth camps and donated her time as a youth softball coach.

In addition to the Woudstras, Northwestern has had two other Liston Award winners, Rachel (Binneboese) Nettested in 2000 and David Bomgaars in 1976. NWC will receive a $1,000 scholarship award from Daktronics in Woudstra’s name.

Nonnemacher returns as baseball coach

Dave Nonnemacher has been named head baseball coach and director of service learning. Nonnemacher, who previously served NWC as head baseball coach and director of residence life, will return to campus Aug. 1 after a two-year absence to replace Derriion Hardie, who has been named director of recruitment at the University of Sioux Falls.

“I am pleased to have the opportunity to return to the baseball program at Northwestern College. I believe that we can be competitive in a very strong conference, and I see good experiences ahead for the Northwestern baseball team,” stated Nonnemacher, whose teams compiled a 32-58 overall record during the 2000 and 2001 seasons. He added, “There is a good nucleus of talent returning, and the recruiting class brings in some very strong baseball talent, as well.”

Dedicated not only to the success of the baseball program but also to the personal development of the athletes, Nonnemacher is enthused about returning to a role that will allow him to invest in the athletes’ lives. “I am committed to putting a quality team on the field, and in the process of pursuing quality in our play and approach to the game, developing the young men that are part of the baseball program. I view intercollegiate athletics as an excellent complement to the academic and spiritual programs that exist at Northwestern, and I look forward to the relationships that will be developed around a game that we enjoy.”

Also committed to Christian missions and service, his position as director of service learning will enable Nonnemacher to mesh his passions for both service and student development. The service-learning role was designed to develop opportunities and strategies to more critically and actively engage NWC students in service and mission projects. As part of this role, Nonnemacher will specifically serve as a liaison between the athletic department and campus ministries, orchestrating local service opportunities for athletic teams and spearheading the preparations for team mission trips during the summer months.

Nonnemacher and his wife, Jody, spent the bulk of the last two years serving as the program coordinators at The Haft, a Pennsylvania home offering holistic therapeutic programs for recovering alcohol and drug abusers. He is presently employed by Village Northwest Unlimited in Sheldon.
There are ways to support specific causes at the college that are close to your heart. Many of you have shown your generosity by supporting the Theatre Patrons, campus ministries, the N-Club and Raider Rooters. Now two of these clubs are joining forces for more efficiency and a bigger impact.

The Raider Rooters have been around for 30 years, and the N-Club has existed for 40 years. The idea of a merger has been discussed in recent years because both organizations support the athletic department by funding requests over and above budgeted items. Younger alumni especially have expressed some confusion about both organizations and questioned why we have two booster clubs essentially trying to do the same thing. There were strong feelings that a merger of the clubs would give us the opportunity to revamp, reshape and renew the sports booster efforts at NWC. The coaching staff and both boards voted unanimously in favor of one unified sports booster club, the Red Raider Club. Their intention is to make everyone feel welcome to join, while still recognizing and thanking former letter winners.

This new organization will continue to raise funds for equipment, but consideration will be made for additional athletic scholarships and assistance in the recruitment effort. The new board will consist of 22 members: 15 volunteers and seven ex-officio college members, including two current students. Board members will be recruited from a broad cross-section of alumni and friends from different eras representing athletes and fans of Red Raider sports. Members will serve a three-year term with the option to serve an additional three years.

The Red Raider Club’s goal is to encourage all alumni of the academy, junior college and college; current parents and parents of former students; faculty, staff, friends, businesses and all fans of Red Raider athletics to join this new organization. It will promote and encourage the participation of Northwestern in all phases of athletic competition, recognizing that the intellectual, social and spiritual development of our students will be enhanced, fulfilling the college’s mission.

If you’ve been a past member of either the Raider Rooters or N-Club, you will be receiving more information about this new club. Anyone who loves sports and is interested in joining can check out more information on the Red Raider Club, coming soon to the athletics page of the website, www.nwc.edu, or call me at 712-707-7127, and I’ll make sure you get a brochure with more specific information.

Northwestern continues to strive for excellence in all programs and organizations, and the alumni who support us make a huge difference! Whether you support the Northwestern Fund, the Theatre Patrons, technology, the music program, or this new sports booster club, you are helping to improve the lives of students. Thank you for being so generous and giving of your time by volunteering at NWC, giving financial help and praying for us.

Deaths
Sadie Wiersma ’30, ’32, age 90, died March 25 at the Orange City Hospital Long-Term Care Facility. She taught at Western Christian High School, Rehoboth Christian School in New Mexico and the Cook Training School in Phoenix. After the death of her father, Sadie moved to Orange City to help care for her mother. She became a librarian at Northwestern and later at Mid-America Reformed Seminary. She was a member of First Christian Reformed Church.

Sebianne (Reinders ’36) Popma, 85, died April 3 at her home in Orange City. She married Delbert Popma in 1939 at the family home near Carnes, where they farmed for 45 years. Sebianne was a homemaker who assisted on the farm and worked as a clerk in several Orange City stores. She was a member of First Christian Reformed Church, where she played the organ. Among the survivors are her husband; two daughters; two sons; two brothers, including John ’33 and Bernie ’41, ’43, and two sisters, including Gertrude Singer ’36, ’38.

Nelvina (Van Es ’40) Zicafoose, 82, of Austin, Minn., died March 19 at a hospital in Rochester. She married Lawrence Zicafoose in 1943. They made their home in Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota, where she was an elementary school teacher. She retired in 1976 as the Brooklyn Center, Minn., High School librarian. In retirement, she and Lawrence spent their summers at their lake home at Starbuck, Minn., and their winters in their mobile home in Homestead, Fla. Nelvina is survived by three stepsons, a brother and a sister.

Robert (Bob) Wissink ’57, age 66, died Aug. 27, 2002, at his daughter’s home in Sioux Falls after a battle with cancer. After serving two years in the Marines in California, he married Wilma (Gelling ’56) in 1959. Bob sold real estate in Canton, S.D., and Sioux Falls for several years. He was later employed by Kiel Trucking. For the past seven years, he and Wilma served as a bus driver and tour guide for South Dakota Farmers Union Travel. Bob was a member of Bethany Reformed Church, Canton. He is survived by his wife; two daughters; and two sons, including Randy ’89.

Jean Boogerd ’69, age 56, died Feb. 24 at the hospital in Sheldon. She taught at the Christian schools in Rock Valley and Sheldon, was employed at Village Northwest Unlimited for more than 20 years and worked at Pamida in Sheldon for the last five years. She was a member of Bethel Reformed Church, Sheldon. Survivors include two sons; her parents; a brother; and four sisters, including Ruth ’78 and Becky Anderson ’87.

Fred Corbin ’69, age 56, died April 3 in Chamberlain, S.D., while on a fishing trip. He married Ruth Punt ’67 in 1967. Fred was a city employee in Sioux Center for 33 years, many of those years as the water superintendent. He was a member of First Reformed Church.
in Sioux Center. Among his survivors are his wife, two daughters, a son, two brothers, a stepbrother and a stepsister.

`67
Dr. Gerald Bouma is the new chairman of the Morningside College music department. He joins the Sioux City College from Northwestern College in St. Paul, Minn., where he was on the music faculty since 1995 and department chairman for the last two years. He previously taught at Westminster College in Santa Barbara, Calif., for 10 years and at Dordt College for 16 years.

`71
Steve Romein remarried following the death of his first wife, Donna (Zevenbergen `71). He and his wife, Ty, now have six children from ages 9-16 studying in four different schools in the Seattle area. Steve is semi-retired.

`72
Loretta (Beukelman) Smith is the home maintenance educator for the Community Housing Partnership of Good Samaritan Ministries in Holland, Mich. The program provides subsidized housing for people who are homeless.

Reginald Joules, Frisco, Texas, has released the first component of ORMSware Suite, a line of rapid, visual quantitative modeling tools he’s been developing for a long time. The tools are intended for professional/industrial use, and have the ability to compress modeling cycle time by 65-90 percent. More information is at his website, www.ushar.com.

Lawrence Loven has retired after 30 years of teaching social studies and special education and coaching tennis and swimming at Bloom Township High School in Chicago Heights, Ill.

Members of the Junior College Class of 1953 gathering at Heritage Day in May included: (front row, left to right) LeRoy Bras, Carol (Van Oort) Bras, Mary Jane (Van Batavia) Rzebooom, Jean (Aberson) Van Veldhuizen, Nelva (Keuten) Van Zyl, Galen De Valois, Audrey Den Hartog, Don Den Hartog, Doris Mayshans, Ken Mayshans; (second row) Corrine (Den Hartog) Folkers, Darwin Keuen, Marlene (De Boer) Keuen, Marinus Landhuis, Larry Petersen, Helen (Van Ahbema `54) Petersen, Edgar De Vries, Phyllis (De Groot) De Vries, Henrietta (Vanden Berg) Elbers, Gilbert Elbers; (third row) Carl Folkers, John Van De Steeg, Diane (Mattlin `54) Vande Steeg, Myron Meyer, Esther Meyer, Muriel (Koerselman) De Groot, Paul De Groot, Nelva (Roetman) Schreur, Don Schreur, Muriel (Ver Hoeven) Langerud, Cal Langerud; (fourth row) Gerald Van Rochel, Darlene (Doornink) Van Roekel, Ralph Wiersma, Emilie Wiersma, Robene (Brouwer) Breed, Ray Breed, Dorothy (Harms) Bulthuis, Jim Bulthuis, Joan Hielkema, Art Hielkema.

`75
Jackie (Woudstra) De Groot is serving on the planning committee to help Orange City Christian School (OCCS) celebrate its 100th anniversary in the fall of 2004. All Northwestern alumni who graduated from OCCS are encouraged to contact her for more information at jwdegroot@occhristian.pvt.k12.i a.us. Jackie has taught fourth grade at OCCS for 11 years.

`78
Brad Roos has moved with his wife, Patty (Schoep), from Denison, Iowa, to Marshall, Minn. Brad is the general manager of the Marshall Municipal Utilities.

`82
Jane (Smith) Hogan and her husband, Jerry, Cleveland, N.C., adopted two boys, Joe (14) and Tom (12) in November of 2001. The Charlotte Observer is preparing an article about how Tom went from being unable to read and go to public school to the point where he read over 50 books this year and finished a successful year of public school, while Joe is back in the custody of the Department of Social Services after making physical threats with a weapon against Jerry. Jane requests prayers for Tom, who is beginning to realize God’s role in his life and ask questions about believing in God, and for Joe, who claims to be a satanist. The Hogans also have “unofficially” adopted the boys’ older sister, Misty (24), who has a five-year-old, Jasper. Misty became a Christian last year and also needs prayer support.

Elaine (Bakker) Lawrensen and her family will be moving to Kandern, Germany, this summer to teach for two years at Black Forest Academy, a school for missionary kids. Elaine will teach elementary art. Her husband, Barry, Northwestern’s director of AV and the Learning Resource Center, will provide technology support and teach high school graphic arts. The Lawrensens’ three children also will attend the school.

Kristine Legters completed her Doctor of Science degree in neurology at Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions last August. She continues to teach full time in the physical therapy program at Gannon University, Erie, Pa.

`83
Diane Van Gelder Atherton is a computer teacher and technology coordinator at Northview High School in Covina, Calif. She lives in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., with her husband, Tim, and their nine-year-old son.

`84
Donley Hoogeveen has established an office of Kingsley State Bank in Le Mars, where he is office manager. Donley attends Le Mars Bible Church and leads a Bible study for young adults with disabilities. He also works with Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries, through which he and his wife, Alison, recently traveled to that African country to help with relief projects.

`86
Julianne (James) Doty reports that she is busy at home in Harrisburg, Ill., with Kristin (7) and Drew (3), and foster children Kristian (2) and Zander (1). Juliane also teaches French at Liberation Home School Co-op. Her husband, Rob, works for Old National Bank.

Sandy (Postma) Kemner is a stay-at-home mom and a part-time RN at the hospital in Brookings, S.D. Her husband, Bill, works at South Dakota State University.

`87
Alethea Stubbe has been named vice president of administration at Northwest Iowa Community
Pick up the plane tickets, make copies of the passports, double-check the emergency phone numbers, finalize the itineraries, cash my travel advance—and, oh yes, I mustn't forget to pack my suitcase! As the Friday before spring break approached, the checklist of preparations for this year’s Spring Service Projects loomed before me. I found myself mentally going over it again and again. Was I forgetting anything?

Once again this year, Northwestern would send out nearly 250 students, faculty and staff to serve at 14 ministries across the country and overseas. It was exciting for me to see so many teams preparing to serve. But mixed with the excitement was also a certain amount of anxiety, as war with Iraq appeared to be imminent. At the time, we were uncertain as to how a declaration of war might affect our teams, so we took several extra precautionary measures.

Nevertheless, during those final weeks before break, I found myself often praying, seeking counsel and reading the news diligently, as I felt responsible to do my best to ensure our students’ safety. With mission trips, as with other trips, we can never guarantee the complete safety of any team, nor remove all of the potential risks. Thus we must decide what amount of risk is acceptable in light of our mission as a Christ-centered institution to participate in God’s reconciling work among the nations and minister the redemptive love of Christ to a world in need.

I found the need to return to Scripture and be reminded anew of the call that we have as Christians to be actively engaged in our world. The words of the Apostle Paul spoke clearly this reality to me:

“All of this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake, he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Cor. 5:18-21)

Our God has given us the privilege and responsibility to be involved in his ministry of reconciliation in the world. God has gone before us—and will continue after us, but for the present, he calls each of us to join him as he upholds the cause of the oppressed, feeds the hungry, sets prisoners free, gives sight to the blind and lifts up all those who are bowed down (Psalm 146:7-8).

When Friday before spring break finally arrived, I heaved a sigh of relief that all of the last-minute details had been completed, and I felt a growing excitement as I anticipated how God would reveal himself to our students. During chapel that day, our students were covered with a blanket of prayer, and in a matter of hours, they were all on their way.

When the teams returned safely 10 days later, we gathered together for a time of celebration, worship and thanksgiving. Tears ran down my face as students testified to God’s restoring and reconciling work around the world. God had come down and revealed himself in mighty and surprising ways. I noticed, too, that their stories were not so much about what they themselves had accomplished, but what God had done, as it should be.

Most of our students came back with more questions than answers but also with a broader understanding of the power and character of God, a recognition of the diversity of the people and cultures in our nation and world, and insight into the vastness of God’s kingdom. I was reminded again that God is the great Doer, and it is only by his grace that we have the opportunity to participate with him. Our agendas, philosophies and programs are not really so important; rather, it is what God does when he shows up in the midst of all of these that is significant.

I invite you to pray for the students who participated in this year’s Spring Service Projects, the Summer of Service program and the football team’s mission trip to the Czech Republic, that they would continue to ask the important questions, seek greater understanding and see the Holy Spirit bear fruit in their lives. Pray, indeed, that all our students’ eyes, hearts and minds would be opened to see God as he chooses to reveal himself to them through their classes, relationships and other experiences. Our hope is that they would learn how to love, serve and grow in knowledge and wisdom, so that they will be equipped to be leaders in our churches, communities and world.
Celebrating their 45th reunion were these members of the Junior College Class of 1958: (front row, left to right) Ben Koerselman, Elaine (Kolenbrander) Koerselman, Audrey (Vander Schaaf) Van Groo, Arlou (Korver) Te Stroete, Gary Te Stroete ‘55; (second row) Russ Sonnenberg, Audrey (Harms) Sonnenberg, Mary Lou Vander Wel, Don Vander Wel, Rudy Katzenberg; (third row) Dale Boone, Harv Kruizenga, Dot (De Boer) Van Ommeren, Ivan Van Ommeren.

College in Sheldon. She oversees the business office, human resources, information technology and physical plant. Alethea has been an instructor for the college’s administrative secretarial program for the last 12 years, and received the Outstanding Faculty Award in 2000. She is president-elect of the Iowa Business Education Association.

‘88

Brian Brands moved to Eugene, Ore., two years ago with his wife, Joni, and their three children, Kiana, Kaitlyn and Jacob. Brian is a special education program manager with the Lane Education Service District. He supervises area special education teachers and educational assistants.

Nancy (Nieuwkoop) Guenther teaches English at Oakland-Craig High School in Oakland, Neb., to sophomores through seniors. She lives on a farm near West Point with her husband, Jeff.

Brian Van Haaften, head men’s basketball coach at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa, is the author of a new book, A Look from Within: A Basketball Coach’s Success Story about Stretching the Limits On and Off the Court. The volume discusses the 37-year-old’s philosophy of life and coaching, offering insights on how his teams have compiled a 150-43 record, ranking him third in winning percentage among active coaches in the NCAA Div. III.

‘89

Steve Cruse graduated in May with an M.B.A. from Iowa State University. He is a vice president for Home State Bank in Jefferson, Iowa. He and his wife, Christina, have a daughter, Hope (1).

Karen (Vander Velde) Richardson and her husband, Tom, are serving with The Master’s Mission in Robbinsville, N.C. As part of a one-year training course, Tom is instructing missionary candidates in drafting and construction skills. This winter, the Richardsons plan to move to Kenya and work on a mission station. They have six children: Warner (13), Daniel (11), Joanna (9), Ellie (7), Russell (4) and Kristyn (2).

‘90

Doug Pals has started his own marketing firm in Clive, Iowa, Re: Sourceful Communications.

Cari (Zoeteman) Uit de Flesch has been working at Foremost Insurance Group for six years. She was among only two winners to receive the company’s Superior Service Award for 2002. She is a candidate for the national Claims Professional of the Year Award given by the National Association of Insurance Women, after winning that honor at the local, state and regional level. The recipient will be named at the national convention in Nashville this summer. Cari and her husband, Dave ’88, live in Kentwood, Mich.

‘93


Rob De Jong is the owner of the new Subway Restaurant in Rock Valley, Iowa. He previously was a recreational specialist at the South Dakota School for the Deaf.

Alumni - What’s New with You?

Let us know so we can tell your friends and classmates. Send to: Office of Public Relations, Northwestern College, 101 7th St. SW, Orange City, IA 51041. Or e-mail it to beeson@nwciowa.edu; fax number is 712-707-7117. Deadline for the Fall Classic is July 31.
Planned giving notes

Changes in Planned Giving

In recent years the planned giving arena has seen a number of significant changes. Today newly-developed software enables planned giving officers and donors to design proposals in a matter of a few minutes. The recommended gift annuity rates change on an ever-more frequent basis to reflect the volatility of today's economic scene, and new trust arrangements or combinations of various planned giving tools enable donors to customize their planned giving.

Despite all of these changes, the basics of planned giving remain the same. As with any type of gifting to a non-profit organization, there must be a charitable intent on the part of the donor. A good way to re-word this is to say that the donor believes in the mission of the charity and feels led to support that mission based on the manner in which it benefits those served. Tax incentives are a nice fringe benefit, but they are seldom the primary reason for making charitable gifts.

The drafting of a will, with or without an accompanying trust document, remains the backbone of any long-range comprehensive planning. In light of the host of changes that have taken place in recent years, virtually everyone should review their current documents and planning. Not only is it likely that your circumstances have changed, it is also possible that new legislation might have rendered your former planning obsolete.

As I have stated in the past, there are several key factors which must be considered when striving to maximize your giving. Among the prime criteria are:

- The nature of the project or program you wish to support
- Your current financial status
- The portfolio of assets available for gifting
- The timeframe in which the gifting will take place
- The ability of the charity to convert non-cash assets
- The ability and desire of the charity to accept non-cash gifts
- The long-range and short-range needs of the charitable organization
- Your long-range and short-range goals
- The tax implications.

Another vitally important component of planning that also has remained unchanged is that the successful compilation of an efficient planned gift takes teamwork. You should work with the charitable organization and your professional advisers. Those advisers might include an attorney, an accountant, a financial planner, a securities broker and a trust officer.

If you are interested in learning more about how a planned gift can maximize your giving potential while providing significant financial benefits, please contact me at NWC, 101 Seventh St. SW, Orange City, IA 51041, (712) 707-7109 or cwassink@nwciowa.edu. All requests are treated confidentially, and you are under no obligation.

Kim (Jongeling) Einerwold has been promoted to the position of internal sales administrator at MED-TEC. She has been part of the Orange City company's sales team since 1993, most recently serving as account manager for the regions of Australia, Asia, the Pacific Rim and the Middle East. In her new role, she provides direction and supervision for international sales representatives, coordinates international marketing projects and assists with the expansion of sales and distribution in China.

Renia Park recently moved to Westcliffe, Colo., where she works for a Christian family camp as head cook for one of the four kitchens on the property. She also teaches sign language to home-school students.

Mike Vander Zwaag is a parts manager at De Jong Oil in Orange City. He also does real estate appraisals for Area Services in Alton. His wife, Loree (Carlberg '95), has worked with Becker & Associates out of California for three years and was recently promoted to account executive. They have a son, Joshua (7).

Dawn (Van Den Berg) Van Den Bosch teaches second grade at Light and Life Christian School. Her husband, Kyle, teaches physical education at Calvin Christian School. The Van Den Bosches live in Escondido, Calif.

Josh Banks, Cannon Falls, Minn., has purchased Cannon Valley Video and Tanning with his wife, Missy. Josh also is an EMT and an assistant high school boys’ basketball coach. The Banks have three children, Kyler (5), Kalysa (3) and Kendric (2).

Brandy Carlson and her wife, Nicky (Smith '97), live in Eagle Grove, Iowa, where Brandy is the high school activities director and head boys’ basketball coach. Nicky is a stay-at-home mom.

Adam Tyrrell lives in his hometown of Manchester, Iowa, where he has been an investment officer at First State Bank for three years. He also is the assistant coach of the West Delaware High School girls’ basketball team, which has qualified for the state tournament two years in a row.

Julie (Hogrefe) Bjork joined the staff at Albert City-Triuesdale Community School last year, teaching business and technology, after previously teaching at Iowa Central Community College in Storm Lake. Her husband, Chad, is a livestock farmer. The Bjorks live near Laurens with their three daughters, Mallory (7), Madelyn (5) and Makayla (2).
## Friday, Oct. 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Hospitality Table</td>
<td>8:30 - 11 a.m.</td>
<td>Rowenhorst Student Center (RSC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapel</td>
<td>10:05 - 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Christ Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speakers: Jim Daniels '98 and Brian Keepers '98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a Class</td>
<td>10:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Various Classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch on Your Own</td>
<td>Noon - 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>DeWitt Center (cafeteria)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Tours</td>
<td>1 p.m. or 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Begin at Zwemer Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedication of the Thea Korver Visual Arts Center</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Thea Korver Visual Arts Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinguished Alumni Dinner Room</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Vermeer Dining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informal Young Alum Gathering (’98 - ’03)</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>RSC Snack Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(pop and popcorn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Band Contest</td>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>RSC Gym</td>
</tr>
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## Saturday, Oct. 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Golf Best Ball</td>
<td>8 a.m. shotgun start</td>
<td>Landsmeer&lt;br&gt;Golf Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raider 5K Run/Walk</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Near Christ Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Baseball Game</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>MOC-Floyd Valley Baseball Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning on the Green (Kids’ carnival)</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. - Noon</td>
<td>Theme: “Building on Tradition”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch on the Green</td>
<td>11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Green by Heemstra Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football vs. University of Sioux Falls</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>De Valois Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitality Tent</td>
<td>During Football Game</td>
<td>De Valois Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reunion Dinner/Photos</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Risers by Vermeer Dining Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Classes of ’63, ’78, ’93 and ’98</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
<td>RSC Mini-Gym</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Sunday, Oct. 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.</td>
<td>DeWitt Center (cafeteria)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Worship Service</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Christ Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speaker: Dave Vander Laan ’78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Register online at [www.nwciowa.edu/alumni/rsvp.asp](http://www.nwciowa.edu/alumni/rsvp.asp)
row. His wife, Brittany, is a stay-at-home mom.

Jill (Zeiger) Ver Steeg was one of the recipients of the George Nathan Makely Award in Worship Content and Leadership at Western Theological Seminary this spring. She also was chosen by the faculty to receive the Henry Pietenpol Senior Excellence Award.

David Wynn and his wife, Kay (Hekter ’97), live in Austin, Minn. David works remotely as a computer system analyst for First Data Corp. of Omaha. Kay is a stay-at-home mom. The Wynn’s work with the worship team at Bethlehem Free Methodist in Austin.

‘97
Julie Vermeer Elliott left her job as a research associate at Duke University in January to accept a position at Eastern University in St. Davids, Pa. She serves as Eastern’s director of advising and first-year programs and as lecturer in Christian ethics. Julie lives in Malvern, Pa., with her husband, Greg, and daughter, Victoria.

Greta (Olson) Larson completed her bachelor’s degree in child development at Concordia University of St. Paul, Minn., in January. She is a nanny for a family of four boys, a position she will continue for two more years. Greta then plans to pursue a teaching position with infants or toddlers.

Myra (De Haan) Van Zee, after working as a church youth director, is now a stay-at-home mom in Pella, Iowa. Her husband, Mike, is an engineer for Vermeer Manufacturing.

‘98
Dr. Heather (Horstmann) Einck lives in Primghar, Iowa, where she operates the Primghar Chiropractic Center.

Marla Van Steenis has moved to Bellflower, Calif. She is working in healthcare, serving developmentally-challenged adults.

‘99
Shelly (King) Johnson resides in a Marine community in Hubert, N.C. Her husband, Don, is an active-duty Marine. In late April, she wrote that many of the community’s residents were currently deployed to Iraq, and that some of the men had died in the war. She requests prayers for military families.

Summer (Kurtz) Barber is in her last year in the entry-level doctorate of occupational therapy program at Creighton University. Her husband, Kevin ’01, is studying architecture at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Michael Hardeman and Troy Van Beek each won the George Nathan Makely Award in Worship Content and Leadership at Western Theological Seminary this spring.

Daniel Johnstone teaches first and second grades at Ben Franklin Elementary School in Menomonee Falls, Wis. His wife, Denise, teaches fifth grade at the same school.

Tom Scholten’s is completing a three-month optometry internship at Edendale Hospital in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, this summer. His wife, Sara (Katzenberger), is with him for the experience. She will continue to teach fourth grade at a music charter school in Boston this fall while he will be at three more three-month clinic sites in Boston.

Donny Strand graduated in May from George Fox University with a master’s degree in counseling. His wife, Jessica (Wilcox), also graduated from George Fox, earning a master’s degree in teaching. She is the worship coordinator at Tigard Covenant Church and teaches piano lessons in their home.

Rachel (See) Valentine graduated from Trinity International University in Deerfield, Ill., in May with a master’s degree in counseling psychology. She and her husband, Jamey, plan to remain in the Chicago area.

Angela Weiland earned her master’s degree in world evangelization from Tyndale Theological Seminary in the Netherlands.

Laura Whitier is pursuing a Ph.D. in cognitive psychology at the University of Nebraska.

Mike Groher teaches fifth grade at Heyward Elementary in Sioux Falls.

Alison Van Nyhus has completed her master’s degree program at the University of Florida and begun taking Ph.D. classes. In October, she’ll run in the Marine Corps Marathon to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She is seeking to raise $3,400 to help cure blood-related cancers. Contact her at avnyhus@english.ufl.edu if you would like more information.

‘02
Jonathan Allsup is working at the Western Washington University summer stock theatre company in Bellingham this summer as the head stage manager.

Public Announcement of NCATE Review
The education department of Northwestern College is scheduled for a fall 2003 accreditation review by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Federal regulations require that accrediting agencies allow for public comment on the qualifications of institutions or programs under consideration for initial or continuing accreditation.

Both NCATE and Northwestern recognize graduates, parents, schools and community organizations have valuable perspectives on the quality of the programs that prepare teachers and other school personnel. We invite interested parties to submit written testimony on the NWC education department to:

Board of Examiners
NCATE
2010 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036-1023

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of professional education programs offered at Northwestern College, and should specify the respondent’s relationship, if any, to the institution (e.g., graduate, present or former faculty member, employer of graduates). Copies of all correspondence received will be sent to NWC for comment prior to the review. No anonymous testimony will be considered.
“The New Testament makes it clear over and over again: Community is not an option in the Christian faith,” says the Rev. Dr. Lyle Vander Broek ’72, a professor at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. In his recent book, Breaking Barriers: The Possibilities of Christian Community in a Lonely World (Brazos Press, 2002), Vander Broek analyzes issues of community as described by the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians.

“There is a breakdown of community in the church,” Vander Broek says. And, he hastens to add, another potluck won’t solve the problem; getting back to the message of the cross will. Taking his cue from Paul, whose “theology was always delivered in context,” Vander Broek’s biblical commentary is a practical guide for pastors and congregations, laying out both the barriers and possible solutions to problems facing Christians who seek community.

The church at Corinth had a love of wisdom, Paul records, causing her to divide according to preacher preference. The form of the sermon took precedence over its content, and the heart of the matter—the foolishness of the cross—was forgotten. Vander Broek discusses this divisiveness in his book, as well as other issues such as immorality, gender roles and the relationship between the church and the world.


An ordained RCA pastor, Vander Broek’s teaching and theology are strongly shaped by his own pastoral experience. Now in his 20th year of seminary teaching after having pastored in both rural and urban settings, he feels his calling is to be a bridge between the scholarly world and the church. “Seminaries need people with pastors’ hearts,” he says, grateful that each of his former students, Dr. James Rohrer, now teaches religion at NWC.

Vander Broek, who grew up on a farm near Ireton, credits Northwestern for preparing him for his life’s work of teaching and writing. “Christianity from a Reformed point of view entered into every classroom,” he says appreciatively. “I received an excellent education there.” As a literature major, he studied under Howard Schutter; as a history minor, he studied under his new professor Bruce Murphy. The Greek he learned from Syl Scorza provided a strong foundation for the Greek courses he teaches at seminary today.

A member of the certification committee of the RCA’s Ministerial Formation Coordinating Agency, Vander Broek supervises RCA students attending his Presbyterian seminary. He and his wife, Rachel, have two sons and three grandchildren.

Amanda Baker-Vande Brake began a graduate theatre program at New York University in June. She expects to complete her M.A. in performance studies at the Tisch School of the Arts next May.

Julie (Wynia) Brown is a social worker at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas. She lives in Lewisville, Texas.

Colin Doughan is working for Lockheed Martin while pursuing several entrepreneurial opportunities. His wife, Corinne (Fanning), works in childcare but hopes to pursue theatre more actively in the next few months. She currently is involved in a theatre group at Trinity Intradenominational Church in Omaha.
Golfers honor Mulder
A group of about a dozen former Red Raider golfers honored their coach, Dave Mulder, upon his retirement from Northwestern this spring. The alumni presented him with a plaque commending him for his years of dedicated service and mentorship. The plaque says, “You changed many lives and taught us all how to become better people, not just better golfers.”

The alumni also gave Mulder gift certificates to be used at restaurants and Austad’s Golf.

Marriages
Nancy Nieuwkoop ’88 and Jeff Guenther, West Point, Neb.
Sarah Elgersma ’97 and David Strobe, West Chicago, Ill.
Tim Wurts ’94 and Alexandra Chambers, Oak Park, Ill.
Daniel Johnstone ’00 and Denise Dulmes, West Bend, Wis.
Sarah Groher ’01 and Sara Gutz, Sioux Falls, S.D.

The couples reside in the city listed.

What would you like to see?
Is there a Northwestern alum or prof you’d love to see profiled in a future issue of the Classic? A topic you’d love to read about? Please let us know!

Name(s): _________________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________
Phone: __________________________________________________________________
E-mail: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
Graduation year(s):  ________________________________________________________
Story idea:  _______________________________________________________________

Please mail to Duane Beeson, NWC, 101 Seventh St. SW, Orange City, IA 51041 or e-mail to beeson@nwciowa.edu.
Inspired in Iowa

I am probably the only current Juilliard student residing in northwest Iowa, where cows and corn stalks outnumber people, and the skyline is comprised of silos and water towers. I have spent the past two years in a town called Orange City (pop. 5,500), where I teach piano and ear training at Northwestern College, a liberal arts institution.

Although rural America has seen its share of well-known and talented musicians reside in these types of settings (the Ying Quartet was based in Iowa about a decade ago, as the first recipient of a Chamber Music National Endowment for the Arts grant to support chamber music in rural America, an orchestra not affiliated with a college or university—the Cherokee Symphony. This ensemble asked me to perform the Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major, Op. 58,” with them in February.

Driving to Cherokee for our first rehearsal after a long day of work, a 50-minute trip on one-lane highways during which I was mostly surrounded by extreme darkness, I was not in the best of moods. My spirits did not improve when I first walked into the performance space. It was a run-down, aged auditorium, with folding chairs and an old black curtain framing the crowded, elevated stage.

My mood began to change, however, as I conversed with the orchestra members. I met Vonnie, a violinist in her 60s, who drove two hours with her husband, principal flutist Walter, to get to the rehearsal. There was Jorge, one of several high school students in the group, a budding young violinist and pianist. A medical doctor, David, led the viola section. Many of these orchestra members came from far away and, to my shock, all were volunteers.

Lee Thorson (lecturer in music at NWC) has been directing this ensemble for 22 seasons. He is a modern-day renaissance man: a professional conductor, cellist, professor, farmer and pilot. “The synergy between the audience and the players is amazing,” he says. “We play for nearly full houses all the time and occasionally standing room only.”

Once we started to rehearse, I began to understand what made this orchestra special. The members played with an intense enthusiasm that inspired me. It was apparent that even the Kawai grand piano on the stage had been rebuilt with great care, given its beautiful tone.

On the day of our performance, a few of the orchestra members were stuck in winter weather but persevered to arrive just in time. The concert ended up being one of my most memorable; the appearance of the auditorium faded away, replaced by the warmth of a packed-house audience that was one of the most respectful and appreciative I’ve ever experienced.

Despite being hundreds of miles from Juilliard, in some ways, I feel closer to the school than I did while I was in residence. Performers and composers with Juilliard ties are ever present; last year I heard the Northwestern College Symphonic Band, led by my colleague Tim McGarvey, a marvelous conductor, perform two works I had never experienced before: former Juilliard faculty member Vincent Persichetti’s “Symphony for Band,” and a piece by former Juilliard president Peter Menin called “Canzona.” I found it ironic that I heard these wonderful works only after coming to Iowa. A year ago, I had the privilege of being a soloist with the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra, performing a piece by Juilliard alumna Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, conducted by another former Juilliard student, Stephen Rogers Radcliffe. Yes, the impact of Juilliard is being felt here next to the corn, crows and silos.

I am grateful to be a small part of that influence. It has been a profound privilege to teach, work and make music with this community. Although I came to northwest Iowa thinking that I would inspire them, I will leave this summer with the realization that it is they who have inspired me.

Brian Lee, a doctoral student at New York’s Juilliard School, was assistant professor of piano at NWC the last two years. He and his wife, Helen, and son, Jason, moved to Chicago this summer for professional opportunities.

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"The bonds between students and professors are unique. The professors know you by name and you can talk to them about anything, whether it's related to class or not."

- Moses Hodgson Kelly '05
  Communication Studies major
  Bluefields, Nicaragua

“Northwestern challenges me to develop academically but also as a person. I’ve learned to understand people in a new environment. Through the International Club, I’ve gotten to know American students as well as students from Korea, India, Africa and other parts of the world. The club opens communication so we can learn from each other and share our cultures. Northwestern has strengthened my spiritual life as well. I’ve seen God work by providing the money I need to stay here. Every time it looks like I’m not going to have enough, I just pray and remember that it’s in God’s hands. Your donation to the Northwestern Fund helps provide scholarships to allow students like me to continue to grow at Northwestern.”

Northwestern College
F A I T H - L E A R N I N G

75 Years of Service continued from page 19

Supper attendees. “Because they love Northwestern, it’s not hard to get them to come.”

The annual fall bazaar, held in connection with Parents’ Weekend, also continues to raise significant funds. The event started in the 1970s as a family fair and originally included a farmers’ market, children’s entertainment, barbecues and an auction.

The birthday cake project has been an ongoing effort since the mid-60s. Every year parents are given the opportunity to order a cake to be delivered on their student’s birthday. Last year the Auxiliary made and delivered 163 cakes.

Jeanne Ritsema, who has been involved with the Auxiliary for nearly 40 years, says it’s fun to see students’ expressions when they see their cake.

“They pick it up, see the note from their parents and are just so excited to get something from home,” she said.

As for the future of the Auxiliary, Vandersall said, “We’d like to involve more women of all ages. The goal is that we continue with the same interest and fire that those first few women had when they started.”